

**§ 622.492**

the Regional Administrator will close the Caribbean EEZ to the harvest and possession of queen conch, in the area east of 64°34' W. longitude which includes Lang Bank, east of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, by filing a notification of closure with the Office of the Federal Register. During the closure, no person may fish for or possess on board a fishing vessel, a Caribbean queen conch, in or from the Caribbean EEZ, in the area east of 64°34' W. longitude which includes Lang Bank, east of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 78 FR 56173, Sept. 12, 2013, § 622.491 was amended by revising paragraph (a), effective Oct. 15, 2013. For the convenience of the user, the revised text is set forth as follows:

**§ 622.491 Season and area closures.**

(a) No person may fish for or possess on board a fishing vessel a Caribbean queen conch in or from the Caribbean EEZ, except from November 1 through May 31 in the area east of 64°34' W. longitude which includes Lang Bank east of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

\* \* \* \* \*

**§ 622.492 Minimum size limit.**

(a) The minimum size limit for Caribbean queen conch is 9 inches (22.9 cm) in length, that is, from the tip of the spire to the distal end of the shell, and  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch (9.5 mm) in lip width at its widest point. A queen conch with a length of at least 9 inches (22.9 cm) or a lip width of at least  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch (9.5 mm) is not undersized.

(b) A Caribbean queen conch not in compliance with its size limit, as specified in this section, in or from the Caribbean EEZ, may not be possessed, sold, or purchased and must be released immediately with a minimum of harm. The operator of a vessel that fishes in the EEZ is responsible for ensuring that Caribbean queen conch on board are in compliance with the size limit specified in this section.

**§ 622.493 Landing Caribbean queen conch intact.**

(a) A Caribbean queen conch in or from the Caribbean EEZ must be maintained with meat and shell intact.

(b) The operator of a vessel that fishes in the EEZ is responsible for en-

**50 CFR Ch. VI (10–1–13 Edition)**

suring that Caribbean queen conch on that vessel in the EEZ are maintained intact and, if taken from the EEZ, are maintained intact through offloading ashore, as specified in this section.

**§ 622.494 Bag limit.**

(a) *Applicability.* Section 622.11(a) provides the general applicability for bag and possession limits. However, § 622.11(a)(1) notwithstanding, the bag limit of paragraph (b) of this section does not apply to a person who has a valid commercial fishing license issued by Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands.

(b) *Bag limit.* The bag limit for queen conch in or from the Caribbean EEZ is 3 per person or, if more than 4 persons are aboard, 12 per boat.

**§ 622.495 Commercial trip limit.**

Commercial trip limits are limits on the amount of the applicable species that may be possessed on board or landed, purchased, or sold from a vessel per day. A person who fishes in the EEZ may not combine a trip limit specified in this section with any trip or possession limit applicable to state waters. A species subject to a trip limit specified in this section taken in the EEZ may not be transferred at sea, regardless of where such transfer takes place, and such species may not be transferred in the EEZ.

(a) A person who fishes in the Caribbean EEZ and is not subject to the bag limit may not possess in or from the Caribbean EEZ more than 150 queen conch per day.

(b) [Reserved]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 78 FR 56173, Sept. 12, 2013, § 622.495 was amended by revising paragraph (a) and adding paragraph (b), effective Oct. 15, 2013. For the convenience of the user, the added and revised text is set forth as follows:

**§ 622.495 Commercial trip limit.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(a) *Applicability.* The trip limit of paragraph (b) of this section applies to a vessel that has at least one person on board with a valid commercial fishing license issued by Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands. If no person on board the vessel has a valid commercial fishing license issued by Puerto Rico

## Fishery Conservation and Management

## Pt. 622, App. A

or the U.S. Virgin Islands, the bag limit specified in §622.494(b) applies.

(b) *Trip limit.* The trip limit for queen conch in or from the Caribbean EEZ is 200 queen conch per day.

### § 622.496 Annual catch limits (ACLs), annual catch targets (ACTs), and accountability measures (AMs).

See §622.12 for applicable ACLs and AMs.

### § 622.497 Adjustment of management measures.

In accordance with the framework procedure of the Fishery Management Plan for Queen Conch Resources of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, the RA may establish or modify the following items:

(a) Quotas, trip limits, bag limits, size limits, closed seasons or areas, gear restrictions, fishing year, MSY, OY, TAC, MFMT, MSST, OFL, ABC control rules, ACLs, AMs, ACTs, and actions to minimize the interaction of fishing gear with endangered species or marine mammals.

(b) [Reserved]

## APPENDIX A TO PART 622—SPECIES TABLES

TABLE 1 OF APPENDIX A TO PART 622—CARIBBEAN CORAL REEF RESOURCES

### I. Coelenterates—Phylum Coelenterata

#### A. Hydrocorals—Class Hydrozoa

##### 1. Hydroids—Order Anthoathecata

##### Family Milleporidae

*Millepora* spp., Fire corals

##### Family Stylasteridae

*Stylaster roseus*, Rose lace corals

#### B. Anthozoans—Class Anthozoa

##### 1. Soft corals—Order Alcyonacea

##### Family Anthothelidae

*Erythropodium caribaeorum*, Encrusting gorgonian

*Iciligorgia schrammi*, Deepwater sea fan

##### Family Briareidae

*Briareum asbestinum*, Corky sea finger

##### Family Clavulariidae

*Carijoa riisei*

*Telesto* spp.

##### 2. Gorgonian corals—Order Gorgonacea

##### Family Ellisellidae

*Ellisella* spp., Sea whips

##### Family Gorgoniidae

*Gorgonia flabellum*, Venus sea fan

*G. mariae*, Wide-mesh sea fan

*G. ventalina*, Common sea fan

*Pseudopterogorgia acerosa*, Sea plume

*P. albatrossae*

*P. americana*, Slimy sea plume

*P. bipinnata*, Bipinnate plume

*P. rigida*

*Pterogorgia anceps*, Angular sea whip

*P. citrina*, Yellow sea whip

##### Family Plexauridae

*Eunicea calyculata*, Warty sea rod

*E. clavigera*

*E. fusca*, Doughnut sea rod

*E. knighti*

*E. laciniata*

*E. laxispica*

*E. mammosa*, Swollen-knob

*E. succinea*, Shelf-knob sea rod

*E. touneforti*

*Muricea atlantica*

*M. elongata*, Orange spiny rod

*M. laxa*, Delicate spiny rod

*M. muricata*, Spiny sea fan

*M. pinnata*, Long spine sea fan

*Muriceopsis* spp.

*M. flavida*, Rough sea plume

*M. sulphurea*

*Plexaura flexuosa*, Bent sea rod

*P. homomalla*, Black sea rod

*Plexaurella dichotoma*, Slit-pore sea rod

*P. fusifera*

*P. grandiflora*

*P. grisea*

*P. nutans*, Giant slit-pore

*Pseudoplexaura crucis*

*P. flagellosa*

*P. porosa*, Porous sea rod

*P. wagneri*

### 3. Hard Corals—Order Scleractinia

#### Family Acroporidae

*Acropora cervicornis*, Staghorn coral

*A. palmata*, Elkhorn coral

*A. prolifera*, Fused staghorn

#### Family Agaricidae

*Agaricia agaricites*, Lettuce leaf coral

*A. fragilis*, Fragile saucer

*A. lamarcki*, Lamarck's sheet

*A. tenuifolia*, Thin leaf lettuce

*Leptoseris cucullata*, Sunray lettuce

#### Family Astrocoeniidae

*Stephanocoenia michelinii*, Blushing star

#### Family Caryophylliidae

*Eusmilia fastigiata*, Flower coral

*Tubastrea aurea*, Cup coral

#### Family Faviidae

*Cladocora arbuscula*, Tube coral

*Colpophyllia natans*, Boulder coral

*Diploria clivosa*, Knobby brain coral

*D. labyrinthiformis*, Grooved brain

*D. strigosa*, Symmetrical brain

*Favia fragum*, Golfball coral

*Manicina areolata*, Rose coral

*M. mayori*, Tortugas rose coral

*Montastrea annularis*, Boulder star coral

*M. cavernosa*, Great star coral

*Solenastrea bournoni*, Smooth star coral

#### Family Meandrinidae

*Dendrogyra cylindrus*, Pillar coral

*Dichocoenia stelleris*, Pancake star

*D. stokesi*, Elliptical star

*Meandrina meandrites*, Maze coral

#### Family Mussidae

*Isophyllastrea rigida*, Rough star coral